Space Vehicle

2789. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has under consideration the proposal to manufacture twin engine medium range combat aircraft and a cost effective space vehicle; and

(b) if so, by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Modernisation of Vizag Airport

2790. DR. T. SUBBRAMI REDDY:
SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Defence Minister while laying the foundation stone for the 191.52 crores modernisation-cum-expansion project at Vizag airport has pointed out that Vizag would become a gateway of India;

(b) if so, whether the work on this project has been started;

(c) if so, by what time the project is likely to be completed;

(d) whether the Defence Ministry has contributed Rs. 141.52 crores for this project; and

(e) at what stage is the work at present?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The project is likely to be completed by 2006.

(d) The Defence Ministry has agreed to contribute Rs. 141.52 crores for the project.